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Proposed facility closures would affect 34 Carbondale positions

SHARON WITTKE
Daily Egyptian

Gov. Pat Quinn’s proposal to close two state facilities in Carbondale would cause job losses and delays in processing criminal evidence for the region, said Carbondale Mayor Joel Fritzler Thursday.

“Southern Illinois is suffering disproportionate job losses compared to other regions in the state,” he said.

In his budget address Wednesday, Quinn announced his proposal to close 14 major state facilities, including two in Carbondale — the Illinois Department of Corrections Adult Transition Facility on West Freeman Street and the Illinois State Police Forensics Lab on East College Street.

If Quinn's budget is approved by the Illinois General Assembly, the Adult Transition Center would close in August with 17 staff layoffs. The facility’s 63 residents would be released from incarceration and would wear electronic ankle bracelets for 24-hour-a-day monitoring, according to the governor’s fiscal year 2013 budget fact sheet contained in an email from the Illinois Department of Corrections. The center's inmates attend classes and volunteer in community activities as part of their reintegration program to civilian life following incarceration, according to the Illinois Department of Corrections website.

The Carbondale Forensics Lab also processes crime scene evidence for southern Illinois law enforcement agencies, according to the website. Under the plan, Carbondale and the Belleville crime labs, which perform similar functions, would consolidate all operations at the Belleville site and the 17 state employees at the Carbondale facility would have the opportunity to transfer to the Belleville facility.

Representatives from both facilities were

contacted but said they were not able to comment. The transition facility deferred all comment to the Illinois Department of Corrections public information officer, Stacey Solano, who said she would forward questions to the governor's press office, who did not respond. The forensics lab deferred all comments to the Illinois State Police public information officer, Monique Bond, who did not respond to a phone call or an email.

Thirty-four people are employed at the two facilities.

Carbondale Mayor Joel Fritzler said he thinks the governor’s proposed closures would adversely affect southern Illinois.

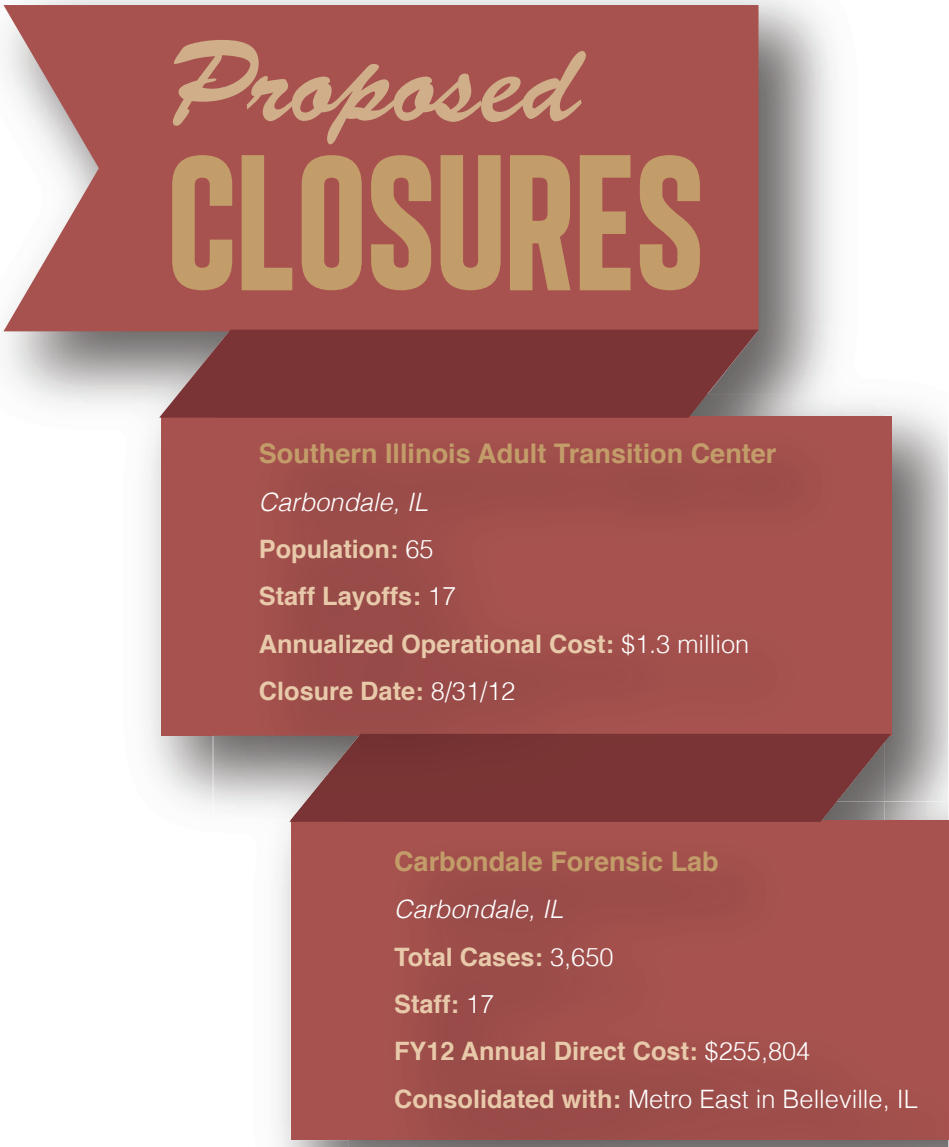
He said closing Carbondale’s crime lab, which serves all of southern Illinois, would cause delays in justice because of the additional time it would take to process evidence. Under the proposal, law enforcement officials would have to transport crime scene evidence to Belleville for processing.

Transporting evidence that distance would be costly for law enforcement agencies in Carbondale and Jackson County, he said.

Carbondale City Manager Kevin Baity said in an email the state has leased the building that houses the crime lab through late 2014. The city is completing heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades requested by the state as a condition of the lease. The cost of the renovation has been factored into the lease.

Closing the Adult Transition Center would also be a blow for the community, Fritzler said. The center’s staff members would be laid off and the city would lose some of its workforce at civic events, he said.

“The residents have been great volunteers at Main Street activities,” he said.



SOURCE: OFFICE OF GOV. PAT QUINN
CALEB WEST | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Fritzler said the proposed facility closures and job losses will also cause negative morale. “It puts people on edge,” Fritzler said. Councilmen Lee Fronabarger and Chris Wissman also expressed concern about the governor’s plan Thursday.

Please see CLOSURE | 4

Mail facility closure would cause job loss for region

SHARON WITTKE
Daily Egyptian

In the midst of the U.S. Postal Service's financial crisis, the Carbondale Mail Processing Center is slated to move its operations to Evansville, Ind., according to a Postal Service press release.

While the distribution center will relocate, the Carbondale post office will remain open and customers will be able to conduct business as usual.

The Postal Service announced Thursday it completed an area mail processing consolidation study that began five months ago and would move forward with a network consolidation plan that would reduce operating costs by \$2.6 billion annually and result in a net savings of \$2.1 billion unless Congress acts to address its financial crisis.

The Postal Service press release stated it is streamlining operations to reduce operating costs. A combination of increased electronic communications, the recession and an obligation to pre-fund retiree health benefits are causing the Postal Service to lose money.

In July 2011 Valerie Welsch, spokesperson for the U.S. Postal Service Gateway District, said the volume of first-class mail has declined by 43.1 billion pieces during or in the past five years and the number of retail transactions made within a post office building itself has declined by \$2 billion in the last five years.

The service relies on revenue from first-class mail delivery to sustain operations, according to the 2012 Post Service press release.

The network consolidation plan is part of an across-the-board

plan to reduce costs by \$20 billion by 2015, according to the press release.

Before the Postal Service can implement the consolidation plan, the U.S. Postal Regulatory Commission must approve the proposal, which was submitted in December, to revise existing service standards, according to the press release. According to the proposal, the service would eliminate overnight delivery of first-class mail. The revised standard for first-class mail delivery time would be two to three days.

The Carbondale processing center employs 107 people, Welsch said in an email Monday. She said she was unable to project the number of lay-offs because many of the Carbondale employees will elect to move to other postal facilities or to retire.

Welsch said the Postal Service will follow the procedures detailed in negotiated contracts for employees who are represented by unions and associations. For employees not represented by unions, they will use established reduction-in-force procedures.

The earliest the Carbondale processing facility could be closed is May 19 according to a Postal Service fact sheet. In December 2011, the Postal Service responded to a request by Congress to impose a moratorium on closing post offices and processing facilities before May 15.

The Postal Service agreed to impose the moratorium, giving Congress the opportunity to enact an alternative plan, according to its website.

Illinois Senator Dick Durbin said in a press release Thursday he believed the U.S. Senate is close to

finding a comprehensive plan that would save jobs, cut costs and still maintain the Postal Service's high standards.

David Walton, spokesperson for the U.S. Postal Service Kentuckiana District, said a variety of criteria were used in selecting the Evansville facility for consolidated operations.

"The Postal Service looked at cost savings, transportation and logistics and capacity within the processing plant," he said.

Walton said the Evansville center is a newer facility, and that may have been factored in the selection process.

The service projects a nation-wide reduction of 30,000 full-time and 5,000 non-career positions as a result of the mail processing center consolidation plan.

Please see POST OFFICE | 4

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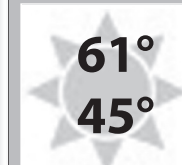
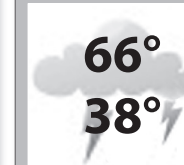
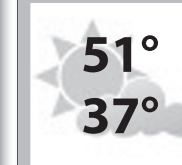
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The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 20,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intersession editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Mission Statement

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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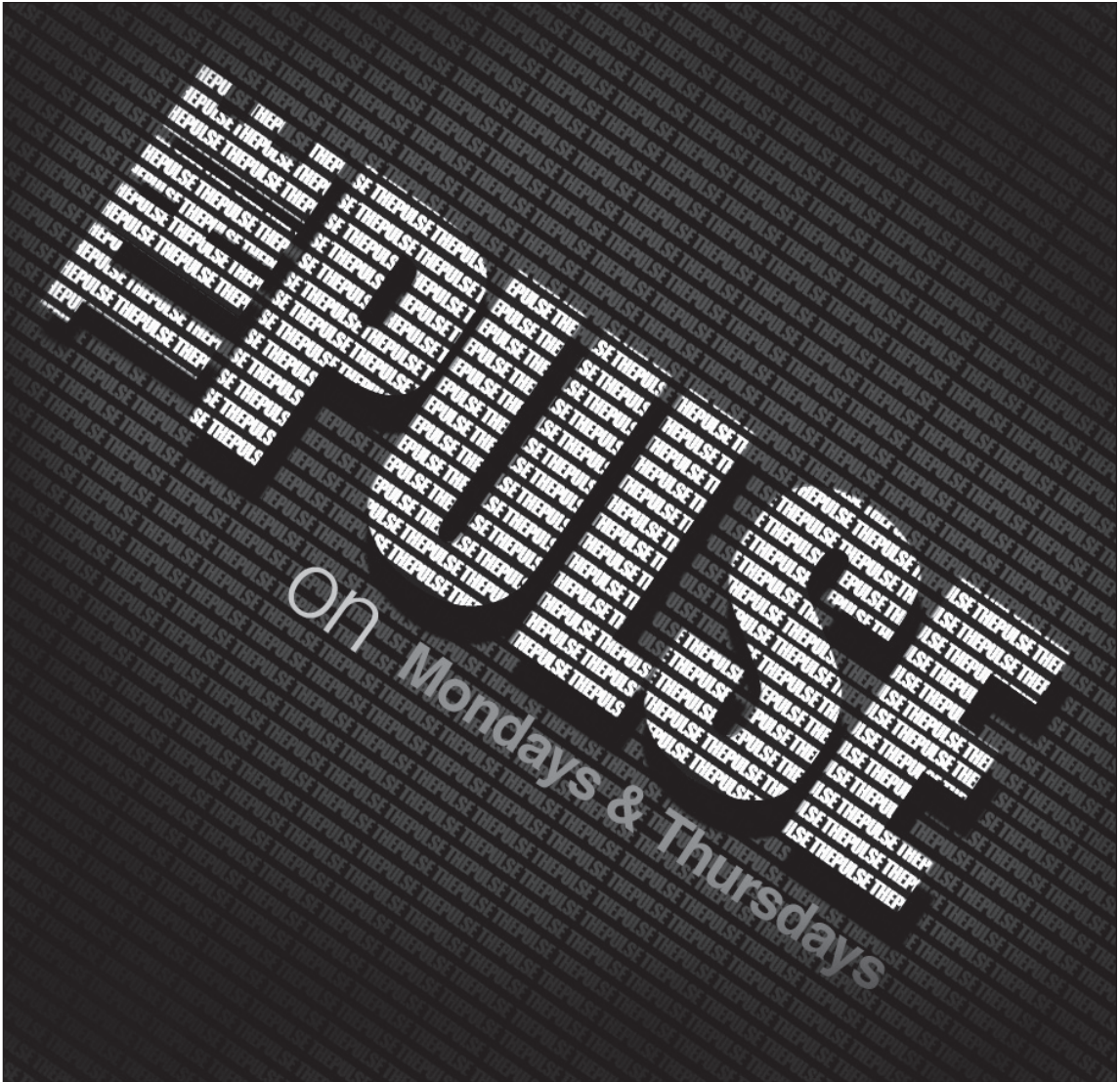
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Switching from coal is not an option yet

TARA KULASH
Daily Egyptian

Although students from the Beyond Coal campaign are pushing for alternative options to provide energy on campus, it's likely the university will not switch from coal anytime in the near future.

The group met Monday with Chancellor Rita Cheng, Phil Gatton, director of plant and service operations, and Kevin Bame, vice chancellor for administration and finance, to discuss alternatives to the campus's coal plant.

"As an institution of higher learning, we have a responsibility to show leadership on global warming," said Daniel Younker, a senior from Downer's Grove studying philosophy pre-law.

The dangers of coal, he said, include the release of hazardous pollutants such as lead, arsenic and mercury. It also has a link to asthma, lung cancer, birth defects and cardiovascular disease. Younker said these emissions are unavoidable even with state-of-the-art scrubbers and technology. He also said the coal plant's emissions violates the Environmental Protection Agency's regulations.

Gatton told Younker his point was irrelevant because the violation refers to when the main boiler is

shut down for cleaning. He said when it's shut down, the monitoring system is turned off as well, which makes the system appear offline. With that issue, notifications are sent to the EPA, so the plant isn't actually doing anything wrong, he said. That time is typically used to switch to natural gas, Gatton said.

He also said the university's coal plant puts out an incredibly small amount of mercury, but declined to specify the exact amount. He said it's not something to be worried about.

Younker said he still thinks switching from coal would be beneficial. He said Beyond Coal has four requests for the administration.

The first request is for the university to solicit bids from contractors to close the coal boilers by May 1 in favor of alternative energy. This plan would include finding solar geothermal and carbon neutral biofuels, not including corn or other inefficient ethanol. Younker asked the bids be made public on the university's website and requested five bids be received by May 1.

Beyond Coal also requests all energy systems be completed by Aug. 31, 2017, which Younker said would be possible.

Cheng said the goal to receive bids from contractors is unrealistic.

"(Contractors) are not going to put in the time that we would need to put serious bids to close our coal boiler when they know we're not going to close our main boiler," she said.

The state procurement requires the university to have serious intentions before requesting bids, Cheng said.

Gatton said the university made a commitment to clean coal many years ago. The university's Coal Research Center was started in 1974 to coordinate efforts to improve the efficiency of coal mining and coal use, according to SIU's website.

It's become a big investment, and to drop a large investment for another one would not be supported by the state. He said the university has a circulating fluidized bed boiler, which takes pulverized coal, puts it into an 80-foot air stream and mixes it with sulfur-capturing limestone. It was a \$50 million investment, he said, with a life expectancy of about 40 more years.

If the university were to take on an alternative project with no state funding, Bame said, it would result in students paying for it. He said tuition and/or fees would have to increase.

Ruby Roknic, a sophomore from La Grange Park studying civil environmental engineering, said while other universities such as

Eastern Illinois University have had to raise tuition for such causes, she hasn't heard any complaints from students about it.

Gatton said while he's not sure the tuition can be directly correlated, EIU has had a significant decrease in enrollment.

Jarid Perrin, a senior from Lindenwood studying forestry, said he wants Beyond Coal and the administration to be able to work together toward a common goal.

"We need to know that a dialogue is actually happening and that we are openly considering going in a more sustainable path," he said.

Perrin suggested the university educate students about the steps being taken to be greener at the New Student Orientations. He said it could invoke new enthusiasm in the students, which would give more credence to put effort into the movement. Cheng said she thought this suggestion was a good idea and would consider it for the future.

Roknic suggested installing better insulation and more LED lights on campus. Cheng said insulation has already been installed in many buildings, and Gatton said there have been more than 30,000 light bulbs replaced so far.

In regards to using more efficient biofuels, Cheng said, that would be something to have a conversation

about, perhaps switching to a material such as wood chips.

Gatton said there has been geothermal energy installed in certain buildings such as the Tech Center, McLafferty Annex and the Stone Center. The university is also on the brink of hiring a sustainability consultant, he said.

Gatton said if students really want to make a difference, they could try to conserve more energy, because 50 percent of electricity comes from coal.

He said if students would cut back on electricity use, it would have a more positive effect on the campus — rather than the university cutting back on its coal use.

"I think there needs to be at least some recognition that the university has tried to burn coal as clean as we can. There will always be disagreements about whether coal is the right source or not, but the reality is, coal will continue to be used for a period of time."

Roknic said she thought the meeting went as well as was possible.

"We're on positive terms for more communication in the future," she said.

Tara Kulash can be reached at tkulash@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 255.

One dead, four wounded in Ohio high school shooting

Associated Press

A teenager opened fire in the cafeteria at a suburban Cleveland high school Monday, killing one student and wounding four others before he was chased from the building by a teacher and captured a short distance away, authorities said.

A student who saw the attack up close said it appeared the gunman targeted a group of students sitting together and that the one who was killed was gunned down while trying to duck under the

cafeteria table.

FBI officials would not comment on a motive, Police Chief Tim McKenna said authorities "have a lot of homework to do yet" in their investigation of the shooting, which sent students screaming through the halls at the start of the school day at 1,100-student Chardon High.

Teachers locked down their classrooms as they had been trained to do during drills, and students took cover as they waited for the all-clear in this town of 5,100 people 30 miles from Cleveland. One teacher was said to have dragged a

wounded student into his classroom for protection. Another chased the gunman out of the building, police said.

The suspect, whose name was not released because he is a juvenile, was arrested near his car a half-mile away, the FBI said. He was not immediately charged.

Fifteen-year-old Danny Komertz, who witnessed the shooting, said the gunman was known as an outcast who had apparently been bullied. But other students disputed that.

"Even though he was quiet, he

still had friends," said Tyler Lillash, 16. "He was not bullied."

Long before official word came of the attack, parents learned of the bloodshed from students via text message and cellphone and thronged the streets around the school, anxiously awaiting word on their children.

Two of the wounded were listed in critical condition, and another was in serious condition.


"I looked up and this kid was pointing a gun about 10 feet away from me to a group of four kids sitting at a table," Komertz said.

He said the gunman fired two shots quickly, and students scrambled for safety. One of them was "trying to get underneath the table, trying to hide, protecting his face."

The slain student, Daniel Parmertor, was an aspiring computer repairman who was waiting in the cafeteria for the bus for his daily 15-minute ride to a vocational school. His teacher at the Auburn Career School had no idea why Parmertor, "a very good young man, very quiet," had been targeted, said Auburn superintendent Maggie Lynch.

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Other regional facilities that would close under the governor's plan include the Illinois Youth Center in Murphysboro and the Tamms Correctional Center in Tamms, which employ 91 and 300 staff members, respectively.

CONTINUED FROM 1

*Sharon Wittke can be reached at
swittke@dailyegyptian.com or
536-3311 ext. 266.*

Among those voting early in Chicago was Sergio Moreno, 35, who said education, the economy and immigration were the issues he was most concerned about. The Chicago resident — who was born in the U.S. but has family members who are Mexican immigrants — works the graveyard shift at a factory and attends college classes during the day.

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A black and white photograph of two women in a gym setting. They are both standing and holding dumbbells with both hands, arms raised above their heads. The woman on the left is wearing a white t-shirt and dark pants with a white stripe down the side. The woman on the right is wearing a light-colored t-shirt and dark pants. The background shows a plain wall with a door and some equipment.

OPINION

Editorial Policy

Our Word is the consensus of the DAILY EGYPTIAN Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

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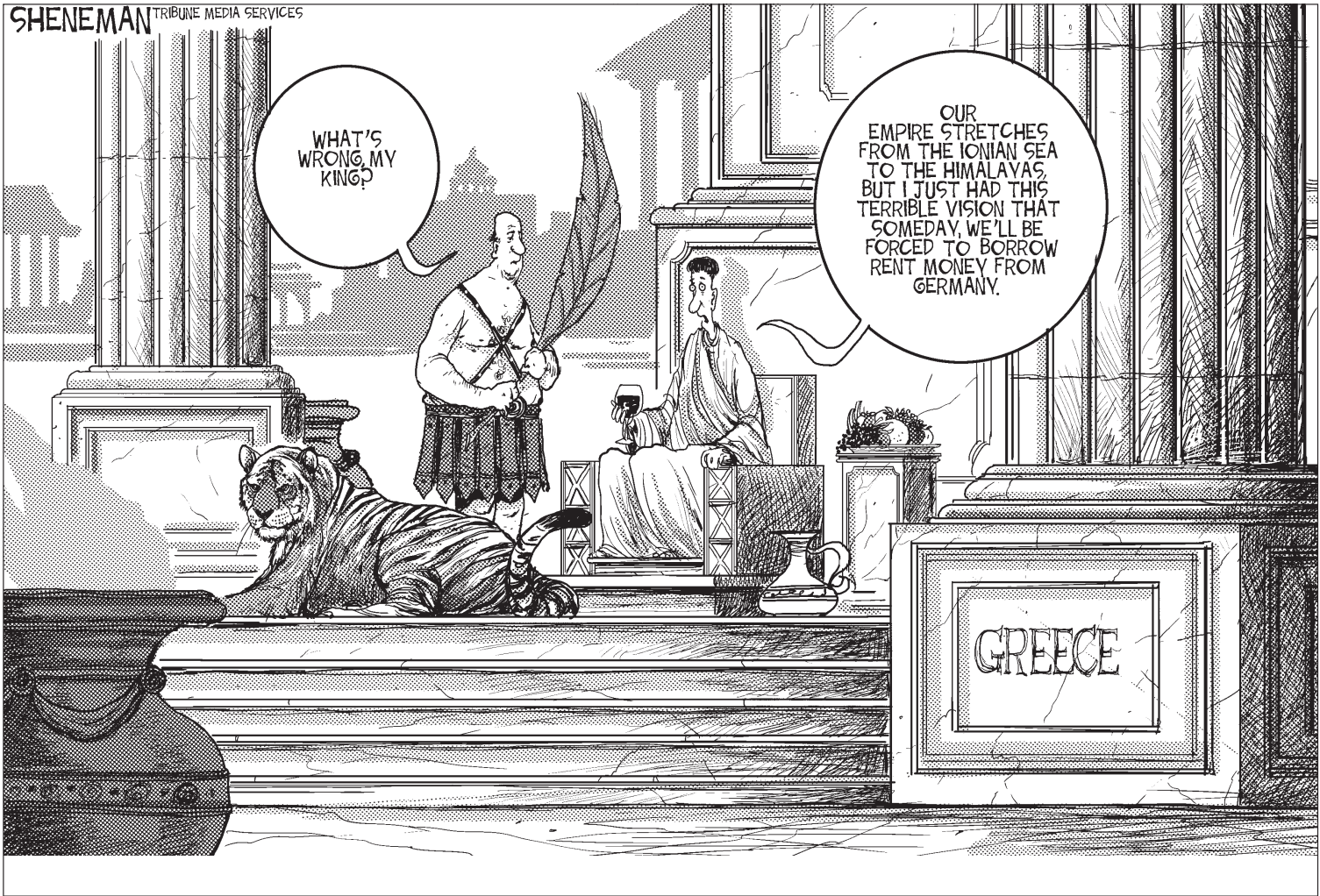
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GUEST COLUMN

Pump price pain

BARTON CHILTON
McClatchy-Tribune

Here we go again. Gas prices are at more than \$4 a gallon in some parts of the country. Unless they don't drive, folks can't escape the pump price pain. Businesses large and small that are dependent upon petroleum feel great pain.

There's no doubt tensions in the Middle East, particularly in Iran, are a primary reason for rising oil prices. But so are better growth expectations and expected increased demand from countries such as India, China and Brazil.

Those expectations make Wall Street speculators salivate. And why wouldn't they? If it appears they have a good bet that oil futures bought today may be worth more tomorrow and even more in a month, why wouldn't they take that bet? Well, they are — Wall Street oil speculation is on the rise ... again. As President Obama said just recently, "When uncertainty increases, speculative trading on Wall Street can drive up prices even more."

One of the big Wall Street banks has said each million barrels of net speculative length adds as much as 10 cents to the price of a barrel of crude oil. But, what does that mean to us when we fill our tanks? With a little math, you can determine the "speculative premium" on oil

these days is around \$23 a barrel — that translates into about an extra 56 cents for a gallon of gas.

I won't bore you with the arithmetic, but that means if you fill up a Honda Civic, the speculative premium costs \$7.39 every time you fill-er-up. If you drive a Ford Explorer or F150, the total is \$10.41 and \$14.56, respectively.

If folks fill up once a week, the Civic owner is putting out \$384.28 more per year, the SUV owner \$541.32 more, and the pickup owner \$757.12 more. So yes, we're talking real money and a real drain on families, businesses and our economic recovery.

There's nothing wrong with speculation. We need speculators to have fully functional financial markets. It's excessive speculation that becomes a problem. When one or two speculators (often big Wall Street banks) take huge positions, there's bound to be a price impact. That's why speculative position limits are necessary and must be implemented soon.

Over the long term, a national energy policy that includes things such as fuel efficiency standards, bio-energy and efforts to produce more domestic energy is also needed. For today though, limiting excessive Wall Street speculation won't take us back to the days of \$1.00 gas, but it will help limit the pump price pain.

THEIR WORD

Consumer protection advances despite fierce opposition

The following editorial appeared in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Friday:

Judging from the political firestorm surrounding the creation of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in 2010 and the appointment of its director last month, you'd have thought it was a government plot to kill our jobs and steal our freedom.

In truth, the work of providing some reasonable federal oversight of everyday consumer financial products and services — bill collecting, personal credit ratings, residential mortgages, telemarketing, payday lending, check cashing, student loans — is remarkably ordinary.

Last week, for example, the CFPB published a 17-page proposal in the Federal Register, describing how it wants to define "larger participants" in the debt-collection and credit-rating markets. It also asked for comments from the public and business. A final rule is expected by mid-July.

This prosaic exercise in governance was required by the Dodd-Frank financial reform law in which Congress authorized the CFPB to regulate, among financial other entities, "larger participants" in the markets for consumer financial products offered by non-banks. The law left defining "larger" to the CFPB.

Once a definition is finalized, CFPB will be able to research, propose, implement and enforce for the first time national standards to ensure fairness and protect consumers from the Wild West, no-rules approach that too often has led to deceptive and abusive practices in these multi-billion-dollar industries.

That's when the financial industry will really start to fight, of course, and the fight will be about money, no matter how many times you hear the words "freedom" and "job-killing."

Money surely was the basis for furious industry lobbying against Dodd-Frank and the CFPB, assisted by the congressional Republicans who do industry's bidding. They lost that battle when the law was enacted in 2010, but they extracted significant concessions, one of which limited CFPB's reach until it had a director.

Republicans worked to keep that from happening. They opposed President Barack Obama's first choice, Elizabeth Warren, a Harvard law professor and consumer activist who had pushed for the creation of the CFPB. A Treasury Department advisory appointment, which did not require Senate confirmation, allowed Warren to oversee the agency's first year of operation, much of which involved building an organizational structure. She has since left Washington to run for a U.S. Senate

seat from Massachusetts.

After Republicans vowed to oppose any nominee for CFPB director, no matter how qualified, Mr. Obama used his presidential recess appointment authority in January to elevate Richard Cordray, a former Ohio attorney general heading CFPB's enforcement department, to the position of director.

Under Cordray, the CFPB has lost no time pursuing initiatives to create reasonable national standards for financial product markets that have had none for too long. On Wednesday, for example, it announced an investigation into bank overdraft fees.

The CFPB approach to regulation was evident in remarks delivered by Cordray at a recent hearing on payday loans in Birmingham, Ala. He acknowledged that 19 million American households are using the services — and paying \$7.4 billion in fees each year for the privilege.

"We recognize the need for emergency credit," Cordray said. "At the same time, it is important that these products actually help consumers, rather than harm them." Seems pretty basic.

Properly crafted rules covering financial products will protect consumers and the honest, responsible businesses that sell them. Only the scammers — in industry and government — need to worry.

Newcomers to news



SARAH GARDNER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Mike Eichholz, left, of Murphysboro, pretends to put on a newscast Saturday with his sons Carson, center, and Caden, right, at the Science Center in Carbondale. To simulate a real newscast, children may put on a suit jacket, read the prompts and see themselves on the screen in front of the set. The Science Center houses many activities such as live animal demonstrations, a flight simulator and an assortment of science-related activities. The center is located in University Mall and is open Wednesday through Sunday.

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Creighton and Wichita State headline MVC tournament

Staff Column

JOE RAGUSA
Daily Egyptian

The Missouri Valley Conference tournament starts Thursday, and there's only two teams with a realistic shot at taking the title.

No. 15 Wichita State (26-4, 16-2 MVC) and No. 25 Creighton (25-5, 14-4 MVC) are the one and two seeds in the tournament, and they're the only two teams in the MVC that have consistently performed well all season.

Creighton was the cream of the crop in the Valley until a three-game skid from Feb. 4 to 11 knocked the team down to second place.

The three losses were capped off by an 88-69 blowout by Wichita State in Omaha, Neb., which gave the Shockers the momentum they needed to take the regular-season title.

"The shots we had tonight were very similar to the shots we had at Evansville (Feb. 7)," Creighton coach Greg McDermott said after the Bluejays' 88-69 victory against the Salukis Feb. 14. "And some of the same shots we had against Northern Iowa (Feb. 4). Wichita State, that game was just an aberration. They were outstanding; we weren't very good."

Along with the 19-point victory

in Creighton's own building, Wichita State also defeated SIU by 43 points Jan. 21. The margin of defeat was the largest in SIU history.

"They were clicking on all cylinders from the beginning. You have to give them credit," SIU coach Chris Lowery said.

The Shockers' only losses came against either ranked teams or in overtime, and they have the best shot at an at-large berth into the NCAA tournament in March. Creighton could land an at-large bid as well, but its loss to Evansville puts the team on the bubble.

Other than the Shockers and the Bluejays, there's a lot of mediocrity

in the field. Missouri State, last season's No. 1 seed, is one of five teams tied at 9-9 in conference play. Indiana State, last season's MVC champion and lone representative in the NCAA tournament last season, fell to the eight seed this season and will face the Salukis in the opening game Thursday at 6 p.m.

The mediocrity of the Valley will show, and Creighton will get another chance to redeem its last loss of the regular season against Wichita State in the championship game Sunday. Creighton comes into the tournament after winning its last three games by a total of four points, and Wichita State has gone

on a 16-1 tear in its last 17 games, with its only loss coming to Drake in triple overtime.

Unless something strange happens, the hotter team will win, which means Wichita State will be the MVC champion.

Check tomorrow's edition of the Daily Egyptian for the full MVC tournament bracket and game times.

Joe Ragusa hosts "The Saluki Report" every Tuesday at 7 p.m. on WIDB.net The Revolution with Sam Donets and Kyle Fisher. He can be reached at jragusa@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.

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513 S. Beveridge 2-5
515 S. Beveridge 1-5
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604 N. Carico
1026 N. Carico
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210 E. College
303 W. College*
309 W. College 1, 2, 4, 5
400 W. College 1-5
407 W. College 1-5
409 W. College 1
501 W. College 2
503 W. College 2, 3
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Blaylock recognized for accolades, honored in NCAA

BRANDON WILLINGHAM
Daily Egyptian

Unique, competitive and devout humanitarian are just a few of the words SIU softball players use to describe Coach Kerri Blaylock.

“She’s the most competitive person I’ve ever met, but incredibly personal with her players,” senior outfielder Mallory Duran-Sellers said. “She really does care about us as both people and players.”

Duran-Sellers, who graduates in May, said she will never forget Blaylock’s keenness and the coach’s relationships with players on and off the field — and after 13 years as head coach at SIU, Blaylock has been selected for the first time to the National Collegiate Athletics Association Division I Softball Committee.

She is the only coach in the Missouri Valley Conference to participate, along with nine other Division I coaches in the country. The committee is responsible for selecting the 64-team bracket for the NCAA Softball Tournament from 2013 to 2016 and the Women’s College World Series in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Blaylock has amassed more than 450 wins, which does not include the 2012 season, and three MVC championships through the 2011 season. At the same time, she produced 61 All-Conference selections.

She started at Southeast Missouri State as a graduate assistant and later decided to seek opportunities as a head coach. She didn’t receive responses for jobs until former SIU softball coach Kay Brechtelsbauer, who coached at SIU for 32 years, contacted her for a second coaching assistant position.

“She called and asked if I was interested in the job, and I said yes right away, although it was very little pay, but I took it,” Blaylock said.

Blaylock said she was promoted to pitching coach, then the first assistant and finally head coach. She has coached at SIU for 20 years.

Blaylock said she’s been blessed with



SARAH GARDNER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Women’s softball coach Kerri Blaylock sits in the stands of Charlotte West Stadium. Blaylock has been Coach for 13 years and has career record of 458-208 with three Missouri Valley Conference Championships. In early February, Blaylock was selected to the NCAA Division I Softball Committee, making her the only representative from the MVC on the committee.

those who’ve had the desire to come and play for her at SIU.

“I don’t think any coach is worth their salt unless they have good players,” Blaylock said. “So I’ve been very fortunate to have some kids come in.”

Despite her team’s athletic achievements, Blaylock said every player’s education should take precedence over the sport. The Salukis’ softball team has the highest grade point average out of the 17 sports at SIU.

“There is no question about it,” Blaylock said. “The first day when (players) come on

campus, they know that their main job here is to get a degree. I tell players to represent SIU and the culture it has established at the university.”

SIU softball players have furthered a tradition of academic achievement in the classroom and on a conference and national level. The team is ranked in the top 35 teams in the nation. During her term as head coach, Blaylock’s had 66 Scholar-Athletes and 10 Academic All-Americans.

Sophomore infielder Taylor Orsburn said Blaylock is like a second mom to players

because she always checks on their progress in the classroom and on the field.

“She’s always there for when you need her. She’s always cheering you on no matter what and through anything,” Orsburn said. “She’s not the normal coach that just recruits a player and tells you to play. She cares about her players and what they do after their four years are over.”

Brandon Willingham can be reached at bwillingham@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 282.

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ACROSS

- Greek cheese
- Makes airtight
- Thrilled
- Hardly ____; seldom
- West Point student
- After-bath wraparound
- ____ up; join forces
- Ascended
- Womanizer's glance
- Registers
- Marine algae
- ____ and reel; fishing items
- Danger
- "Bye, Jacques!"
- Pale
- Fatality
- ____ away; dismiss
- "____ Abner"
- Reason to wear a truss
- Sorrowful
- Winged horse of myth
- Bill, to Chelsea
- Draw forth, as a response
- Compete
- In this location
- No longer fresh
- Wager
- Bonet and Kudrow
- Happen
- Taxi
- China orderer's selection
- Adept
- "The Beehive State"
- Incite
- Clumsy fellow
- Internal spy
- Hertz rival
- Clutched
- Gorillas
- Free-for-all
- In a lazy way

DOWN

- Give a party for

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 2/28/12

Monday's Answers:

C	A	R	T	S	T	W	A	S	N	A	P	S
A	F	I	R	E	A	I	D	E	A	B	U	T
R	A	C	E	R	P	L	O	D	P	O	L	E
P	R	O	M	I	S	E	D	A	R	O	U	S
O	O	P	S	S	K	E	L	T	E	R		
U	N	T	R	U	E	C	E	A	S	E		
N	A	E	S	A	V	E	D	T	O	D	A	Y
D	I	A	L	R	A	D	A	R	N	A	P	E
O	L	M	O	S	L	A	N	E	S	L	E	A
V	O	T	E	R	P	U	N	I	S	H		
A	P	P	E	A	R	S	M	E	N	U		
C	H	A	L	K	Y	C	E	L	L	M	A	T
H	O	N	E	I	D	E	A	A	B	B	E	Y
E	N	D	S	N	U	L	L	M	E	L	E	E
S	E	A	S	G	E	T	S	P	R	E	S	S

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35 Allow	50 Narrow boat
36 Color	51 Wildcat
38 Portion	52 Perched upon
39 Make a lap	53 Story
42 Apparel	54 Arrive
44 Small BBQ	55 Lost vital fluid
46 Botch	56 Lounge around
47 Drink like Fido	57 Small whirlpool
49 Dairy product	60 Four qts.

Pick up the **Daily Egyptian** each day to test your crossword skills

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Level: **1** 2 3 4

Monday's Answers:

5	3	7	6	2	4	9	1	8
4	8	9	5	1	3	2	6	7
1	2	6	7	9	8	3	4	5
9	1	2	3	6	5	7	8	4
6	7	3	4	8	1	5	2	9
8	4	5	9	7	2	1	3	6
7	6	8	1	3	9	4	5	2
3	9	4	2	5	6	8	7	1
2	5	1	8	4	7	6	9	3

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contain every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MIXED UP BY:

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PRAGH

MURTS

DLOETD

EEECDX

Answer: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Monday's Answers | Jumbles: CYNIC THINK EXEMPT FOSSIL
Answer: The retired hockey player lived here — IN THE STICKS

MO WALLACE

A TOUCH OF HOME COOKING

WINGS

BEEF BRISKET

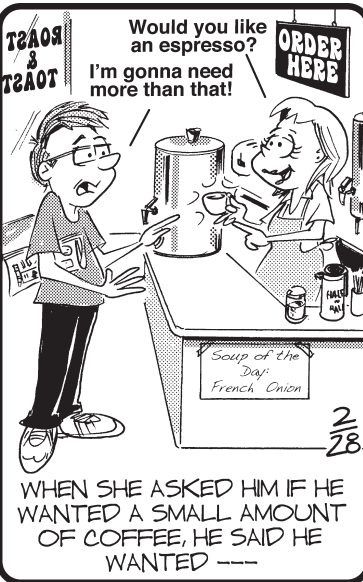
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clement

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Aries — Today is an 8 — Get ready for another great learning experience. Your ability to concentrate will be enhanced marvelously for the next two days. Resist the temptation to splurge.

Taurus — Today is an 8 — Edit the presentation again for clarity and brevity. You're entering a two-day domestic phase. Get practical, and watch for a new source of inspiration.

Gemini — Today is a 6 — An antique figures into your plans. Go over financial information with an expert. Step into the spotlight, and let it rip. Sing out for what you care about.

Cancer — Today is a 7 — Speak, email and send your messages out. You may be under a bit more pressure. Slow down and think it over. Let your partner choose the color.

Leo — Today is an 8 — Little successes add up. Enjoy gorgeous moments. Your good manners gain you brownie points. Network socially, and spread the good vibes around.

Virgo — Today is a 7 — Writing, recording and communications go well today. Prepare in private for the attention that's coming later. Go over planning and schedules. Edit the speech down to it's most powerful form.

Libra — Today is a 7 — You're probably thinking about it too much. Trust your instincts for a brilliant solution. Be open to new ideas, even if they seem crazy.

Scorpio — Today is a 9 — You don't have to do the boring stuff. Delegate to someone who's better than you at that, and focus on what you do best. Reward with rest and relaxation.

Sagittarius — Today is a 9 — There's gain without pain, although it does require discipline. You can be very convincing now, and move forward with celerity. Don't dodge the acknowledgement.

Capricorn — Today is an 8 — You can get farther when you team up with a partner. You get a boost of confidence. Go ahead and dream. A plan, a team and actions make it real.

Aquarius — Today is a 6 — Solving problems comes easily, especially when you let your higher sense prevail. Creativity flows, and it's so romantic... share it with someone interesting.

Pisces — Today is an 8 — You find new answers to old questions. You're motivated to take action. You're imaginative, inspired and just plain lucky. Take a step.

Saluki swimming, diving team earns All-American honors

CALEB MOTSINGER
Daily Egyptian

SIU swimming and diving coach Rick Walker said academics and athletics are one and the same, but actions speak louder than words as the Salukis raise the bar for academic success.

The Saluki swimming and diving programs were named All-American Scholars by the Swimming Coaches Association of America for a team cumulative grade point average of 3.2

in the fall of 2011, a point higher than the previous season’s GPA. The award is given to any Division I team with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.

The men's team posted a 3.25 GPA, an average tied with Alabama for the 15th-best GPA in the country, while the women's team posted a 3.2 GPA.

Lisa Peden, director of Learning Support Services, said her organization offers student athletes the opportunity to not be left to their own devices when it comes to schoolwork.

All athletes with a GPA lower

than a 3.0 are required to attend study table hours, and freshmen members of the swimming and diving teams are required to attend six hours per week of study tables in their first semester. These group study sessions link athletes together according to their majors and class schedules.

“When you’re a freshman, you have a lot of opportunities to get work done during study table hours,” freshman swimmer Caleb Coots said.

“This sport has given me the discipline I need to stay on top things.”

Associate Athletic Director Kristina Therriault, who oversees Student Services and the Student Academic Affairs programs with student services and academics, said the athletic program spends a lot of time with freshmen.

“SIU athletics has around 60 tutors on staff, with courses required to freshmen on time management and organizational skills,” Therriault said.

These opportunities are not just offered to freshman athletes. Peden said all athletes have the opportunity

to attend study sessions or to get help from tutors. These sessions are highly encouraged by the coaching staff, mandatory for all incoming freshmen and free for all athletes to take advantage of.

“When you play a sport, you're forced to make time for things,” sophomore diver Brittany Weigel said.

“Diving gives me structure.”

Caleb Motsinger can be reached at cmotsinger@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.

Eastern Illinois won’t renew coach’s contract

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, Ill. — Eastern Illinois men's basketball coach Mike Miller will not return next year after seven seasons with the Panthers.

The team finished 12-17 this season and failed to qualify for the

Ohio Valley Conference tournament for the second straight season. Miller's only winning season was 2009-10, when the Panthers finished 19-12 (11-7 OVC).

Miller's record at Eastern Illinois was 75-130 overall and 44-84 in conference play.

Hamilton appears close to return for Bulls

Associated Press

DEERFIELD, Ill. — Veteran Richard Hamilton appears close to returning to the Chicago Bulls' lineup.

Coach Tom Thibodeau stopped short of declaring him ready Monday, although Hamilton has taken contact in practice. The Bulls

play New Orleans on Tuesday.

Hamilton, who has not played since Jan. 29, has been limited to 11 appearances because of thigh and groin problems.

Backup guard C.J. Watson has been cleared to play after missing the past two games because of a mild concussion. Also, Derrick

Rose says his back felt so good that he didn't get treatment during the All-Star break, and Luol Deng says he's fine after falling on his injured left wrist during Sunday's game. He also says he hasn't heard from the league about wearing a T-shirt with an outline of Africa during introductions.

3RD ANNUAL COLON CANCER AWARENESS 5K RUN AND WALK


MARCH 24, 2012
MURPHYSBORO, IL

March is colorectal cancer awareness month and you can help raise awareness about this type of cancer and the necessary screenings for early detection. Because of the areas of the body colorectal cancer affects, some people find it embarrassing and are not comfortable engaging in discussions with their health care providers. In 2011, Illinois will have approximately 6,240 new cases of colorectal cancer diagnosed and approximately 2,190 deaths will occur. So, whether you prefer to be competitive or participate for fun, you are invited to join us for the 3rd Annual Colon Cancer Awareness Run and Walk. To help draw attention to the need for preventative screenings such as the colonoscopy, we will provide all participants who register by March 10, 2012 with t-shirts. Participants will be encouraged to wear the shirts on race day. Each time you wear the t-shirt after the race, you will be reminded to have your preventative screenings.

Race packets may be picked up beginning at 8 am at Dairy Queen, 1700 Walnut Street, on the day of the race—START time is 9 am

- Timing provided by River to River Roadrunners
- All miles marked
- Pre-register by March 10 to be guaranteed apparel
- Starting point is 18th and Walnut Street and will conclude at 17th and Spruce Street.
- Assistants will be located around the course to monitor the race course.
- **\$15 registration fee— Registrations received by March 10, 2012 guarantee participants event apparel. Participants who register day of event will not receive apparel.**
- Start time of the 5K is 9 am. Awards will be presented immediately after results are tabulated.
- Men and Women Runners: 14 and under; 15-19; 20-24; 25-29; 30-34; 35-39; 40-44; 45-49; 50-54; 55-59; 60-64; 65-69; 70 and over
- Men and Women Walkers: 19 and under; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60-69; 70 and over

Proceeds benefit American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Jackson County Murphysboro.



\$15
Registration

Complete, the application and return with payment to: **Caleb's Warriors, c/o Brenda Nehring, 363 Nehring Farm Road, Murphysboro, IL 62966.** Event apparel will only be guaranteed for registrations received by March 10, 2012. For information, call 618/967-9248.

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Age _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

Circle appropriate categories:

Male Female Run Walk (Walkers must walk only) Adult T-shirt Size: **Small Medium Large X-Large**

Liability waiver to be signed by all entrants, or by parent or guardian, if entrant is under 18. In consideration of your acceptance of this entry, I, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release, the American Cancer Society Relay For Life and the City of Murphysboro and any and all sponsors and their representatives, successors, and assigns from any and all rights and claims for damages I may have arising out of or any injuries and illnesses suffered by me in this event, including those which may be attributable to weather conditions. I attest and verify that I will participate in this event as a footrace entrant, that I am physically fit and have sufficiently trained for the completion of this event and a licensed medical doctor has verified my physical condition. Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all of the publicity and/or promotional purposes without obligation or liability to me. I have read the entry information provided and certify my compliance by my signature below. I understand entry fees I pay are non-refundable.

Signature _____ Parent/Guardian (if under 18 years of age) _____

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From left to right, freshman diver Kegan Skelton, junior swimmer Thomas Defay, and junior diver Anna Beeck, all members of SIU’s swimming and diving team, received All-American Scholar awards for the team’s cumulative GPA of 3.2. The Swimming Coaches Association of America awards teams the title of All-American Scholars if the cumulative GPA of the athletes is higher than 3.0. See page 11 for the full story.

Men’s track, field wins first MVC title in 20 years

AKEEM GLASPIE
Daily Egyptian

The men's track and field team got off to a fast start at the Missouri Valley Conference Indoor Championship, and kept it up during the weekend as it left with a first-place win.

The MVC championship marks the 12th in program history and the first in 20 years for the men’s team since its 1992 win. The Saluki men won the championship, which was held Saturday and Sunday at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa, with a two-day total of 142.5 points.

The women's track and field team placed fourth with 88.5 points and several stand-out performers.

It was coach Connie Price-Smith's first MVC title, and in addition, she won the MVC Men's Coach of the Year Award.

Saturday

During the first day of the tournament, the men's team captured a lead over projected top seed Indiana State University by collecting several top finishes. The Salukis earned a first-place finish from

senior Cody Doerflein in the pole vault when he cleared 17.04.50. Doerflian recorded the same height in 2010, which ranked him third all-time in SIU history.

The SIU men's distance medley relay team claimed the gold with a time of 10:04.18.

Junior T.J. Heffernan anchored the winning relay team and was followed by junior Jeremy Bankston, freshman Oscar Medina, junior Zach Dahleen, senior Stephen Arvanis, junior Jawon Smith and junior Lucas Cherry.

Two-time conference champion thrower senior J.C. Lambert added a third conference weight throw championship to his career resume when he won with a throw of 70-09.25. Lambert is the second MVC player ever to win three conference titles.

Lambert said consistent training helped him succeed.

“I just kept doing what I have been doing all year with the weight. Even though I lifted hard and trained through this meet, I was experienced enough to win,” he said.

Other top men throwers from the first day were freshman Bradley Sauer, who placed fifth with a throw

of 62-06, and senior Collin Otto, who placed 10th with a time of 58-01.75.

Senior Malaikah Love led the Saluki women by starting the first day with a win in the pentathlon, with 4,092 points. That point total ranks Love fourth in the nation. The Carbondale native also won the long jump (20-02.5) and shot put (45-03), and placed second in the 60-meter hurdles.

Love also placed third in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:24.4 and seventh in the high jump when she cleared 5-00.5. Love said her drive to succeed is what allows her to excel at different events.

“The key is discipline, effort and determination. You have to be tough, unwilling to let physical fatigue or mental exhaustion overpower the completion of the task at hand,” Love said. “I’ve tapped into elements of exhaustion and pain that people would never allow themselves to feel, and it's truly a skill you have to learn.”

Top women’s thrower, senior Jeneva McCall, recorded a distance of 76-09 in the weight throw to clinch her third straight conference title. Senior Rickael Roach finished fourth with a 64-

04.5 throw, while freshman DeAnna Price recorded a personal best throw of 64-04.5 to place fifth.

Sunday

The Saluki men were able to hold their lead for the second day of competition. Indiana State trailed SIU closely during the championships but placed second overall with a total of 137 points. The men used several top finishes to rack up points needed to claim the championship.

Junior Ryan Sidwell placed fourth overall for the Salukis, with a total of 5,258 points, as he competed in the heptathlon events. Sidwell's best finish came in the 1,000-meter run when he placed second with a time of 2:43.20. Sidwell also had a third-place finish in the pole vault when he cleared a height of 15-09. He placed fourth in the 60-meter dash and in the high jump. He rounded out the heptathlon with a fifth-place finish in the 60-meter hurdles, ninth in the shot put and 11th in the long jump.

Junior Zach Dahleen claimed the MVC Championship title in the one-mile run. The 5000-meter run was a big

Event	Competitor	Score	Place
Men Distance Medley	Various	10:04.18	1
Men Pole Vault	Doerflein, Cody	17-04.50	1
Men Weight Throw	Lambert, J.C.	70-09.25	1
Men 1 Mile Run	Dahleen, Zach	4:13.64	1
Men 200 Meter Dash	Williams, Dominic	22.28	3
Men 800 Meter Run	Arvanis, Stephen	1:52.62	2
Men 1 Mile Run	Dahleen, Zack	4:13.64	1
Men 5000 Meter Run	Anderson, Neal	14:26.22	1
Men Shot Put	Lambert, J.C.	58-00.50	3

point-getter for the Saluki men, as SIU accounted for four of the top six runners.

Senior Kendrick Branch placed seventh in the high jump with a 6-05.50 jump, while senior Maxim Bakana placed fifth in the triple jump with a jump of 48-01.75.

The day after Lambert earned his third-consecutive conference title in the weight throw, he finished third overall in the shot put with a throw of 58-00.5. Junior Brian Cooper finished in sixth place, with a throw of 54-08.25, to add to the Salukis' final total.

For the women, Love

continued her strong performance and won the triple jump with a jump of 41-03.75. Junior Kenya Culmer placed second in the high jump with a height of 5-08.5.

McCall ended her indoor season with a win in the shot put, with a throw of 56-09.5, which made her a three-time MVC champion in the event. Junior Kim Fortney placed fifth in the shot put with a throw of 50-04.5.

Statistics provided by Saluki Athletics.

Akeem Glaspie can be reached at aglaspie@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.